GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1064
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2016
Electrification of Rail Lines in North-Eastern States
Teli Shri Rameswar

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to develop the Railway network including the electrification of lines in the North Eastern States and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Railways have made any estimate of total expenditure required to execute such projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNTARRED QUESTION NO. 1064 BY SHRI RAMESWAR TELI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02.03.2016 REGARDING ELECTRIFICATION OF RAIL LINES IN NORTH-EASTERN STATES.

(a) to (c): Indian Railways have laid great emphasis on improvement in Railway infrastructure and to develop railway network in North Eastern States. 17 major railway projects consisting of 12 New Lines, 3 Gauge Conversion and 2 Doubling rail line projects have been taken up in North Eastern states. In addition, 2 Doubling projects have been included in Budget 2015-16 subject to requisite Government approvals. Total cost of these projects is ` 50546 crore and an expenditure of ` 17357 crore has been incurred on these projects till 31.03.2015, with an outlay of ` 5338 crore in 2015-16.

An all time high outlay of over ` 5200 crore was provided for New Lines, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects in North Eastern States in 2014-15. Again in 2015-16, a still higher outlay of ` 5338 crore has been provided for speedier execution of these projects.

Electrification of railway tracks is decided on the basis of financial viability, traffic volumes and operational feasibility. At present, with a view to provide faster and seamless rail connectivity to Assam, electrification of Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati including Katihar-Barsoi (836 RKM) has been sanctioned at a cost of ` 821.53 crore in which 223 RKM falls in the State of Assam.

In last two years, following major developments have taken place in North Eastern Region, including Arunachal Pradesh:

(i) Itanagar, the capital of Arunachal Pradesh was connected to the National Capital by a direct train.

(ii) With commissioning of Balipara-Bhalukpong line after gauge conversion, Arunachal Pradesh have been provided with second Broad Gauge connectivity.

(iii) Entire track on North Bank of Brahmaputra, running very close to Assam-Arunachal border, has been connected to Broad Gauge with commissioning of Rangiya-Murkongselek Broad Gauge line.

(iv) Meghalaya has been brought on railway map of the country with commissioning of Dudhnoi-Mendipathar railway line.

(v) With commissioning of Lumding-Silchar Broad Gauge line, the Barak Valley has been brought on Broad Gauge network of the country.

(vi) Agartala, the capital of Tripura has been brought on Broad Gauge network with introduction of goods trains on 20.02.2016.

(vii) Manipur state has also been connected with Broad Gauge network with introduction of goods trains on 20.02.2016.

(viii) Indian Railways endeavour to provide connectivity to all the States of North Eastern Region in next 4-5 years.

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